ADA Advisory Council Meeting Minutes June 1, 2011

This meeting was held in the first floor conference room of the Hood Building located at 219 South President Street. Members attending today are: Lee Cole, Chairperson, Dr. Scott Crawford, Vice Chair, Rev. Sam Gleese City ADA Coordinator, Shellie Zeigler, Namon Hulitt Jr., Director for MS Library for the Blind, Jason Bunch, Lynn Hill, and Desmeon Thomas, Transition Specialist Life of MS.

- I. Lee Cole called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm.
- II. Introductions were made around the table; Desmeon Thomas explained that he was sitting in for Christy Dunaway.
- III. Desmeon Thomas was asked to read the minutes from the May meeting. There were minor changes made.
- IV. Dr. Scott Crawford motioned to approve minutes with changes. Mr. Gleese seconded and the motion carried.

Updates and Presentations

- a. Sam Gleese stated that the ADA transition Plan DVD should be ready and that the website was fairly accessible. Sam Gleese explained that he contacted Mr. Baker from Institute for Disabilities Studies (IDS), from the University of Southern Mississippi and he had suggestions. Mr. Baker stated that the screen would not automatically read the page from the website. Sam Gleese also explained that Jackson Cab has an accessible taxi with full modifications, but they are charging extra for the use of the wheelchair lift. This is a clear violation of ADA. Sam Gleese stated that the Taxi Company has a contract with Medicaid. Sam Gleese explains that the company cannot charge regular customers non-Medicaid users additional charges beyond what is shown on the meter. Sam Gleese explained that the Taxi Company charged Nikki Kirkwood \$53 last time she called. Lee Cole questioned how a Taxi Company would know if the person is a Medicaid rider? Dr. Scott Crawford replied that if the rider is paying out of pocket that they should know you are not a Medicaid rider. Jason Bunch asked what the rates are. Sam replied that it would be a percent per mile and distance.
- b. Sam Gleese explained that October is Disability Awareness month and that we were planning a Disability Awareness Day event. He stated that turn outs are better during the week and that a facility was still needed. If anyone has any ideas please let him know.
- c. Dr. Scott Crawford asked to be updated about the invitation to the Central MS Planning and Development District with Larry Smith. Sam Gleese explained that he contacted

Larry Smith. Larry Smith was out of town, but stated that he felt he didn't have anything to offer. Lee Cole stated that people with disabilities should be at the table and that we want him to let us know what was going on.

Old Business

- a. Lee Cole stated that we should present a formal letter to Larry Smith and that it is an insult that he won't agree to meet with us. Dr. Scott Crawford stated that by law it is required that every five years CMPDD plan for the needs of people with disabilities. Dr. Scott Crawford explained that no efforts were made to plan for people with disabilities. "It's not what he has to offer us; it's what we have to offer him." Dr. Scott Crawford explained that the hearing was held at 6 p.m. when people with disabilities were not able to come. Lee Cole stated again that we should put in writing that he was formally invited and that there was an informal attempt already made.
- b. Sam Gleese informed the Council that George Ewing met with the ADA subcommittee to discuss changes at the City Auditorium. The sub-committee shared advice with him concerning handrails and he was very pleased with the suggestions. Lee Cole stated that he was focused on the outside first. George Ewing stated that he would address the ramp because it is extremely steep. Lynn Hill stated that something be done about the seating, they should have accessible seating closer due to people that may be in wheelchairs with visual impairments. Dr. Scott Crawford suggested that the next time we meet about Thara Mara Hall (City Auditorium) it would be a lot better if we could do a walk through.
- c. Sam Gleese stated that there will be a temporary Handicapped crossing directly in front of the Jackson Convention Complex on Pascagoula Street. A permanent crossing will be put in place when that area is fully developed.
- d. Lee Cole asked about the Monitor's report. Dr. Scott Crawford stated that it should be back in two weeks -maximum.
- e. Dr. Scott Crawford stated that a letter was sent last week to the Department of Justice letting them know that their capacity to JATRAN has not been increased; the City is in breach of the Court Decree. Dr. Scott Crawford stated that he placed a call to Sean Perkins but he never phoned back.
- f. Lee Cole stated that we should make recommendations/changes to Bylaws to get them updated. Lee Cole asked when recommendations are made where they would go. Sam Gleese replied to the Mayor.
- g. Shellie Zeigler read Bylaws. Article 1 was approved. In Article 2, Lee Cole recommended that the ADA Coordinator is a liaison between council and the Mayor. In Article 3, Lee Cole suggested that "support" be defined. (Financial support for trainings, conferences, and so forth. Lynn Hill questioned Article 4. She asked if a person could be

kicked out of a meeting and off the council. Lee Cole replied if the person were not doing their duty as a council member and is being disrespectful, a vote will be made. In Article 5, Dr. Scott Crawford suggested that nomination of a Chair or Vice Chair be changed to every two years instead of every year. In Article 5b, Lee Cole suggested that the Mayor meet with Council twice a year. In Article 7, notified changed from noticed in Bylaws. Dr. Scott Crawford asked how many members we need to have a quorum, Sam Gleese stated 7. Dr. Scott Crawford asked, "What do we do if we don't have 7 members?" Sam Gleese replied that we still would have a meeting but it is considered an unofficial meeting.

New Business

July 20th is best time to have next meeting, stated Dr. Crawford. Lee Cole stated that the July 20th JATRAN meeting be scheduled and open to ADA advisory and JATRAN advisory members. The Transportation Summit is next month at Jackson Convention Complex on the 12th and 13th 2011. Journey of Hope is Saturday, July 23, 2011.

Next meeting - July 20th 2011 at 1 p.m.

Adjourned at 2:37 p.m. motioned was made by Dr. Crawford, Jason Bunch seconded and this meeting was adjourned.

These Minutes were prepared by Christy Dunaway.

These Minutes were approved at the July 20, 2011, meeting.